



California Energy Commission Dockets Unit
Attn: Docket No. 04-IEP-1G
1516 Ninth Street MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Regarding Docket Number 04-IEP-1G

As a California naturalist and wildlife photographer I am writing in response to comments on the 2005 Integrated Energy Policy Report with respect to "Assessment of Avian Mortality from Collisions and Electrocutions" CEC-700-2005-015 by Melinda Dorn:

- 1) The CEC's research is critical in identifying the scope of the avian mortality problem caused by wind turbines at Altamont Pass and at other locations. The CEC has funded research that the wind industry refused to fund, despite the knowledge it was causing massive raptor mortality at Altamont Pass with no effective mitigation plan for reducing that mortality.
- 2) The CEC needs to stay involved in research now and into the future, not just at Altamont but throughout California as wind power projects are proposed throughout the state. The CEC needs to continue research to identify effective mitigation for the next generations of turbines and proposed new wind power sites.
- 3) CEC staff and contractors have completed extensive and credible work by conducting objective scientific research and providing critical information for resource and permitting agencies, including the California Attorney General, the California Department of Fish and Game, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and for Alameda County. CEC staff and contractors should be recognized and commended, not attacked for their work.
- 4) The CEC has effectively communicated with all stakeholders throughout their research. The August 2004 CEC Report on Altamont Pass, CEC contractors met repeatedly with the wind industry and their consultants throughout their research period. They shared their preliminary results with industry in the year before publication of the report, distributed drafts to the wind industry to review before publication, and incorporated all industry comments.

It is essential to include this assessment in any decisions regarding wind turbine permits now and in the future. While it is a tragic irony that this green energy source has been the cause of death of raptors, only scientific based mitigation efforts can ultimately save these listed birds and the wind power sites.

Sincerely,

Eddie Bartley
Nature Trip
493 Vermont Street
San Francisco, CA 94107